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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Ulf SMITH

Confirmation No. 8408

Serial No. 09/875,945

GROUP 1637

Filed June 8, 2001

Examiner S. Chunduru

NOVEL SEQUENCES AND THEIR USE

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement set forth in the Official Action of September 24, 2002, applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to an isolated, substantially purified nucleotide sequence, with traverse.

Responsive to the requirement that applicant further elect a nucleotide sequence, applicant provisionally elects SEQ ID No. 3, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims in the present application are sufficiently closely related so that a search and examination of the entire application can be made without a serious burden.

The present invention relates to IRS-2 related metabolic disorders or diseases. Thus, it is believed that the claims of the present invention are directed to subject matter in which a search and examination can be completed within a narrow discipline.

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At the very least, it is respectfully requested that Groups I, IV, and VI be examined together. Group I is directed to an isolated and substantially purified nucleotide sequence. Group IV is directed to a nucleotide sequence used as a medicament. Group VI is related to a method of diagnosis of IRS-2 related metabolic disorders. It is believed to be apparent that a search of Group VI would reveal all prior art relevant to Groups IV and I. In fact, the Official Action does not contend otherwise. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the examination of Groups I, IV, and VI do not present a serious burden on the Examiner for examination purposes..

In light of the above discussion, it is believed that applicant is entitled to an action on the merits of all the pending claims, in their full scope, in the present application. At the very least, it is respectfully submitted that Groups I, IV, and VI should be examined together. Such action is accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

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